Closure of mines in Orissa

†2711. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mining work has been stopped in more than 50 mines in Orissa;

(b) whether the lease of these mines had expired;

(c) the names of the minerals alongwith the number of mines related to them out of these mines, separately;

(d) the extent of productivity which has been affected due to the closure of these mines; and

(e) whether the relaxation from his Ministry was not sought by these closed mines, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) As per available information, mining operation have been suspended in 128 mines by the State Government of Orissa, which includes suspension of 63 mining operations for want of statutory clearances like valid mining plan/scheme of mining, forest clearance and environmental clearance etc.

(c) The details are given below:

Mineral	Chromite	Iron ore	Manga-nese	Iron/ Manga-nese	Soaps-tone	Gra-phite	Lime-stone	Lime-stone/ Dolomite	Dolomite
No. of Mines	1	21	13	17	3	20	1	16	4

Mineral	Quartz phylite/	Quartzite	Quart/	Silicasand Gemstone	China	China clay Fire clay	Fire clay/	Coal clay	Pyro-	Pyro-phylite Quartz
No. of Mines	13	3	2	2	3	1	4	1	1	2

(d) The suspension entails stopping of mining activities, which would effect production of minerals.

(e) No, Sir.

Implementation of Multi-sectoral Development Programme

2712. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had accorded high priority to the Multi-sectoral Development Programme being implemented in 90-minority concentrated districts across the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the scheme has not yet taken off in 16 of the 20 States marked for the programme;

(c) whether many beneficiary States are sitting on funds already allocated to them; and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Uttar Pradesh with largest number of identified minority dominated districts has been lagging behind in implementing the scheme in more than half of its chosen districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) The Multi-sectoral Development Programme for minority concentration districts is a special area development programme of the Government monitored by the Delivery Monitoring Unit for flagship programmes. Under this programme, district plans of 16 states/UT have been approved and funds released to 14 States/UT. Four states, viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Sikkim have not submitted their district plans.

(c) and (d) The Multi-sectoral Development Programme was launched in the year 2008-09 and after completion of all necessary formalities of preparation and approvals, the first release was made under this programme in October 2008 only. Approvals are accorded project wise and utilization of funds is reported by the State Government after utilization of at least 60% fund released for the project as per guidelines of the programme. In the case of Uttar Pradesh first batch of sanctions was issued on 31.12.2008 only. District Plans in respect of all 21 minority concentration districts of Uttar Pradesh have been approved and expenditure of Rs. 83.14 crore has been reported.

SC status of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims

2713. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether report submitted by National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities to Government were sent to National Commission for Scheduled Castes for its views with regard to SC status to Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims;

(b) if so, the views of National Commission for Scheduled Castes on the matter;

(c) whether Government are acting on the report of National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities are under consideration of Government.